

To the King. c. 1720 ?

SIR,

£100

With a Heart full of Grief am I forced to write, that Prudence will not permit me to say to your Face. And may I ever find Credit with your Majesty, and Protection from Heaven, as what I now do is free from Passion, Vanity or Design, with which, Actions of this Nature, are too often accompanied: I am not ignorant of the frequent Mischiefs wrought in the World by factious Pretences of Religion; but were not Religion the most justifiable Cause, it would not be made the most specious Pretence. And your Majesty has always shewn too uninterested a Sense of Religion, to doubt the just Effects of it in one whose Practices have, I hope, never given the World cause to censure his real Conviction of it; or his backwardness to perform what his Honor and Conscience prompt him to; how then can I longer disguise my just Concern for that Religion in which I have been so happily educated, which my Judgment thoroughly convinces me to be the best; and for the Support of which I am so highly interested in my Native Country; and is not *England* now by the most endearing Tye become so.

Whilst the restless Spirits of the Enemies of the REFORMED RELIGION, back'd by the cruel zeal, and prevailing power of *France*, justly alarm and unite all the Protestant Princes of Christendom, and engage them in so vast an Expence for the Support of it, can I act so degenerous and mean a part, as to deny my Concurrence to such worthy Indeavours for disabusing of your Majesty by the Reinforcement of those Laws, and Establishment of that Government, on which alone depends the Well-being of your Majesty, and of the PROTESTANT RELIGION in *Europe*. This, Sir, is that irresistible and only Cause that cou'd come in Competition with my Duty and Obligations to your Majesty, and be able to tear me from you, whilst the same affectionate desire of serving you continues in me. Could I secure your person by the Hazard of my Life, I should think it could not be better employed: And wou'd to God, these your distracted Kingdoms might yet receive that satisfactory Complyance from your Majesty in all their justifiable Pretensions, as might upon the only sure Foundation, that of the Love and Interest of your Subjects, establish your Government, and as strongly unite the Hearts of all your Subjects to you, as is that of

SIR,

Your Majesties most Humble, and most

Obedient Son and Servt.